

County OKs MCSD restoration & trails

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

McKINLEYVILLE – The county’s Planning Commission has approved permitting for an “ambitious project” restoring salmonid habitat and creating new river access in a wetland area owned and managed by the McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD).

Approved without discussion as part of the commission’s November 19 consent agenda, the project will improve and increase salmonid habitat in the Mad River watershed and create access to a river overlook.

The project area is located in McKinleyville, on Fischer Avenue near the intersection of Fischer Avenue and at the western segment of School Road from Ocean Drive to Verwer Avenue.

The habitat restoration includes removal of 4.25 acres of percolation ponds to “restore a more natural connection to the Mad River,” according to a written staff report. Two acres of new wetlands will be created within the pond infrastructure footprint along with 1.4 new acres of open water for “off-channel rearing refugia habitat for salmonids.”

Also part of the project is creation of a 1,775 foot channel connecting the river to the pond area to allow juvenile salmonids to migrate.

WETLANDS ❖ PAGE 4



FRIENDLY REVIVERS

WELCOMING WAKER-UPPERS A coalition of emissaries from the Arcata Chamber of Commerce and Kinetic Koffee greet North Coast Growers Association Farmers Market vendors at Arcata’s Saturday vegfest with bracing brew and Los Bagels pastries. Welcome wagoners serving above are Brett Shuler, Mark Ritz, Charlie Jordan, Molly Steele and Alan Black. The Winter Market is well underway, and begins at 10 a.m. on Saturdays. Masks are required at all times inside market boundaries; prepared food must be eaten off site. northcoastgrowersassociation.org KLH | UNION



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SEASON'S STOREHOUSE

ENGINEERING ENCHANTMENT Elves Stephy Pfeifer and Chrissy Ross string lights in the lobby, left, while Bill Chino, center, oversees the annual decorating effort at Jacoby’s Storehouse. Shoshanna and Adam Wanden with this year’s gingerbread-themed Grand Tree. PHOTOS BY MATT FILAR | UNION

COVID scourge steeply surging

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – COVID-19 is surging and what Humboldt’s health officer has described as a “steep climb in cases” has moved the county into the state’s highest risk category, effecting new restrictions and a curfew.

Disease is spreading at an unprecedented pace nationally, statewide and now, locally. Humboldt saw 122 cases confirmed last week, including 31 cases on November 26. The county had a case total of 850 as of the end of last week and there were two more hospitalizations, bringing that total to 43.

It’s part of a statewide coronavirus surge. California’s COVID-19 hospitalizations have doubled since mid-November, Los Angeles is in lockdown and there have been more than 19,000 deaths in the state, including nine in Humboldt.

On Nov. 24, a day that saw the confirmation of 17 more local cases, the California Department of Public Health placed Humboldt in the purple or widespread COVID-19 risk tier.

Restrictions geared to reducing the startling case acceleration include the closing of bars, breweries and distilleries, outdoors-only operation of restaurants, wineries, family entertainment centers, fitness centers and places of worship, and reduced indoor capacities in retail businesses and shopping centers.

Being purple also puts the state’s 10 p.m. curfew into effect locally.

In a Nov. 24 media availability video, Health Officer Dr. Teresa Frankovich said the county’s daily case rate per 100,000 residents is now “well over seven, which is the cut-off for the purple tier.”

Asked if the county’s COVID-19 rate is “going to skyrocket,” Frankovich said

COVID ❖ PAGE 10

Testing expands to weekends

MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – The OptumServe site located at Redwood Acres in Eureka has expanded no-cost COVID-19 testing to include Saturday and Sunday, in addition to the weekday schedule.

On Monday, Nov. 30, testing became available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day of the week. To schedule an appointment through OptumServe, register online at lhi.care/covidtesting, or call 888-634-1123.

Redwood Acres Fairgrounds is located at 3750 Harris St. in Eureka. Parking is available in the lot across the street from the fairgrounds.

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St. Joseph hospitals earn top honors

ST. JOSEPH HEALTH
EUREKA – St. Joseph Health's Northern California hospitals, including St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka, received quality achievement awards and distinctions from Healthgrades – an organization that recognizes top hospitals with outstanding clinical outcomes in key specialties.

The hospital received

multiple 5-star ratings, which signify high-quality care to patients and lowered risk of death.

The list includes awards for the following:

- Five-Star Recipient for Total Hip Replacement in 2021

- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Sepsis for 6 Years in a Row

"Our outstanding providers and caregivers along with our investments in technology and our facilities are what make our hospitals exceptional places to receive care. We are proud that we ranked among the country's best in terms of providing the highest quality of care for orthopedic and critical care patients," said Roberta Luskin-Hawk, M.D., chief executive, St. Joseph Health, Humboldt County.

Every year, Healthgrades evaluates hospi-

tal performance at nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide for 32 of the most common inpatient procedures and conditions using Medicare data, and additional analysis outcomes.

"Now more than ever, consumers understand the importance of hospital quality and starting to become more diligent when researching where they receive care," said Brad Bowman, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Healthgrades. "Hospitals that receive a Healthgrades 5-star ratings are recognized for their performance in specialty care provide high quality care and superior outcomes."

The complete Healthgrades 2021 Report to the Nation and detailed study methodology, can be found at partners.healthgrades.com/healthgrades-quality-solutions/healthgrades-quality-awards.

Clean, separate, cook and chill

HUMBOLDT DHHS

HUMBOLDT – The holidays will look different this year, but food safety precautions remain the same.

The Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services Division of Environmental Health (DEH) is reminding people of safe food handling tips to keep holiday meals healthy.

Supervising Environmental Health Specialist Ben Dolf said, "We want to make sure people practice proper food handling to help prevent easily avoidable illnesses."

DEH along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend following four simple steps to lessen the chance of foodborne illness: Clean, separate, cook and chill.

- Clean your hands with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food. Thoroughly wash all surfaces, utensils and dishes with hot, soapy water and rinse with hot water before and after each use. Wash fruits and vegetables under cool, running water even if you plan to peel them to prevent the spread of bacteria.

- Separate raw and cooked foods to avoid cross contamination. Keep fruits and vegetables away from raw meat,

poultry, eggs and seafood. Also, keep raw animal products separate from each other. Frozen turkeys and other meat should be thawed in the refrigerator, in a sink with cool water that is changed every 30 minutes, or in the microwave. Use a clean spoon to taste food as it's cooked or ladle a small amount into another dish.

- Cook food to proper temperatures. Set the oven temperature no lower than 325 F, and be sure turkey is completely thawed before cooking. Using a food thermometer, make sure that the internal temperature of turkey is at least 165 F at the thickest part. Cooking times will vary. For optimal safety, cook stuffing outside turkey in a casserole dish.

- Chill turkey and other perishable foods in the refrigerator within two hours of being cooked. Do not eat leftover meat that has been refrigerated for longer than three to four days or leftover stuffing or gravy that has been refrigerated for longer than two days.

For more information about food safety, call the Food and Drug Administration Safe Food Information Line at 888-723-3366 or the U.S. Department of Agriculture Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-674-6854. Holiday food safety tips are also available at foodsafety.gov.

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The McKinleyville Community Services District Board of Directors will honor three outgoing members at its meeting today, Dec. 2. The meeting will take place using Zoom. The meeting ID is 843 9055 3681. Attendees also have the option of calling in at 1 (888) 788-

0099. The meeting begins with a closed session at 6:15 p.m. to review the performance of MCSD General Manager Patrick Kaspari. The meeting convenes in open session at 7 p.m. The board will present Hooven & Co. Inc.

with its Community Builder Award for the company's contributions to McKinleyville. The board will then honor three outgoing board members who opted not to seek reelection in November.

Shel Barsanti and Mary Burke will be presented with certificates of recognition for their service on the board. The board will vote on a

resolution honoring John Corbett for his 18 years of service on the board. Their terms expire on Friday, Dec. 4. MCSD staff is recommending that a special meeting be scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9 to swear in new board members Greg Orsini, Joellen Clark-Peterson and Scott Binder, who were elected on Nov. 3.



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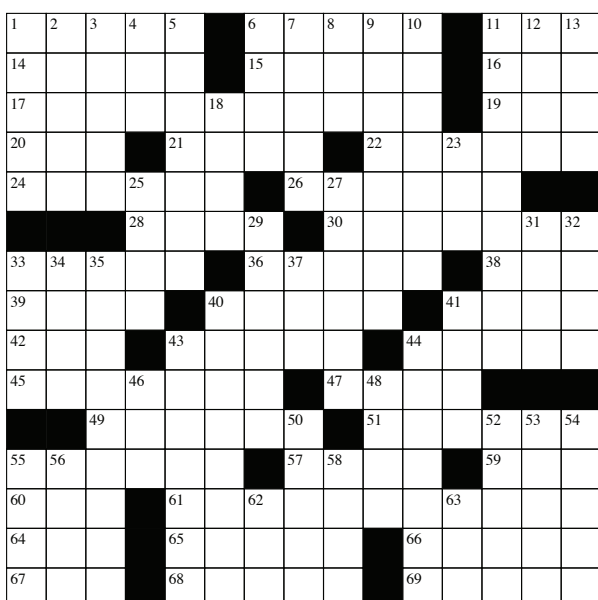
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Talked wildly
6. Electrode
11. Hippie's home
14. Useful
15. Brawl
16. Female sandpiper
17. Soup variety
19. Time
20. Man's nickname
21. Heating chamber
22. Weapon
24. Written works
26. Most rational
28. Appeared sorrowful
30. Lying down
33. Plant firmly: var.
36. Explode
38. Cochlea's place
39. Encircle
40. Ayes, e.g.
41. This: Sp.
42. ___ pro nobis; pray for us
43. Monetary penalties
44. Choir members
45. Opposite
47. Wee ones
49. One who discriminates against the elderly
51. Folds
55. Spending plan
57. ___ day; seven per week
59. Be deceitful
60. Equal: pref.
61. Item for a groom
64. Peg for Palmer
65. Foul-up
66. Put a strain on
67. Ending for poet or host
68. Bondservants
69. Pile up

DOWN

1. Lace pleating
2. Reference volume
3. Small bottles
4. Shade tree
5. Lured into a trap
6. Andy's partner
7. Amphibians
8. Like Methuselah
9. Profundity
10. Most mysterious
11. Most attractive
12. Prefix for space or dynamics
13. Good buy
18. Trapdoor fastener
23. Concorde, for one: abbr.
25. Impressed greatly
27. Stop
29. Steak choices
31. Intl. alliance
32. Mardi ___
33. Mr. Stravinsky
34. Deep mud
35. Pretenses of courage
37. Early Coloradan
40. Company
41. Otherwise
43. Complimentary item
44. Capital city
46. Soufflé ingredient
48. Sign in a shop window
50. From head ___
52. Girl's name
53. Becomes fatigued
54. Beginnings
55. Snack
56. Employs
58. Conjunctions
62. Fancy vase
63. "I think, therefore ___"



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MAD RIVER UNION

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opinion@madriverunion.com

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Jack D. Durham, Editor & Publisher editor@madriverunion.com
Kevin L. Hoover, Editor-at-Large, Publisher
opinion@madriverunion.com
Jada C. Brotman, Advertising Manager
ads@madriverunion.com

Daniel Mintz, Janine Volkmar Reporters
Matthew Filar, Moonlight Macumber, Terry Finigan
Photographers

Patti Fleschner, Mara Segal,
April Sousa, Carolyn Jones, Bob Doran Columnists
Terry Torgerson, Terry Finigan Cartoonists
Karrie Wallace, Distribution Manager karrie@madriverunion.com
Marty Burdette, Proofreader

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BLESSINGS The Trinidad Fishing Community's 25th annual Blessing of the Fleet took place Thanksgiving morning. This year's ceremony was held on Facebook Live on the page @ TrinidadBlessing. Left, Axel Lindgren III and his family gave a traditional Native blessing, facing to the four directions, followed by a non-denominational blessing from Officiant Dana Hope, M.A. The blessing was sponsored by the Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, and community partners including: Windansea; Trinidad Bay Fishermen's Marketing Association; Trinidad Civic Club; Omar Mejia; and the Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria. PHOTO COURTESY MARNA POWELL

Senior News covers Holidays Past and Present

SENIOR NEWS
HUMBOLDT – Even as we revise our expectations for this COVID-fraught holiday season, the holiday spirit still bubbles up this time of year, even if we're far away from loved ones this year.
“It's going to be pretty quiet at our household,” says one Eureka family in the December issue of *Senior News*, Holidays & Past and Present.
Because of the year we've had, this holiday season may seem a little short on tinsel, cheer and elves. But in spite of the worsening pandemic and the body politic's ongoing nausea, it's hard not to be hopeful at the prospect of new beginnings.
For some, Dec. 21 will be the most

hopeful day of the month — maybe of the year. It will be the “shortest” day of the year, when the Earth on its orbital arc swings farthest from the Sun and our days are more dark than light.
But then it starts back. “Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise,” as French author Victor Hugo said. At 5:02 a.m. on the 21st, we'll start adding minutes of daylight, and head slowly back toward summer.
That's a happy metaphor for us to hold close as we wind up 2020. As the Earth and Sun demonstrate every year, dark days do start getting brighter.
The folks at *Senior News* and Humboldt Senior Resource Center

wish everyone happy, warm, restful, peaceful and virus-free holidays. As Tiny Tim said, “God bless us, every one.”
In *Senior News* next month: In January, *Senior News* will look at the New Year as a time of change and rebirth — whether it's New Year's resolutions or a personal response to climate change. What changes do you observe in 2021 for your life and in your community — or what changes would you like to see? Or look back the when major changes occurred in your life, and how that worked out. *Senior News* solicits your stories for the January issue by Dec. 12. Send story ideas to the editor at tpease@humsenior.org.

Mad River Community Hospital welcomes these recent arrivals

Avery Rose Corcoran, born Oct. 25, 2020 to Rory and Trisha Corcoran
Marlo Everett Myers, born Oct. 26, 2020 to Donnie Myers and Taylor Hawkins
Alonso Paz Perez Gutierrez, born Oct. 21, 2020 to Daniel and Jacquelyn Perez
Tyler James Taylor, born Nov. 4, 2020 to Shawn and Brittany Spott
Alaina Rose Schlotzhauer, born Nov. 5, 2020 to Dustin and Tiara Schlotzhauer
Elijah Cullen Schlotzhauer, born Nov. 5, 2020 to Dustin and Tiara Schlotzhauer
Richard Mataeo Cloud Brinkman, born Nov. 6, 2020 to Richard Brinkman and Ayla Ramsey
Ryder William McDonald, born Nov. 10, 2020 to Brandon and Kristin McDonald
Remi Mytear Kalpakoff, born Nov. 11, 2020 to

Cristine Kalpakoff
Anthony Edward-Allen Moon, born Nov. 11, 2020 to Darrell Moon and Ernestine Trimble
Eliana Lovelyn Lewis, born Nov. 13, 2020 to Janene Kirby
Henry Edward-Lowell Kottre, born Nov. 14, 2020 to Nicholas Kottre and Issabella Malin
Henry August River Stone, born Nov. 15, 2020 to Seth and Ashley Stone
Declan Dean O'Dwyer, born Nov. 17, 2020 to Patrick O'Dwyer and Shannon Hill
Haydn Craig Higginson, born Nov. 18, 2020 to Sage and Savannah Higginson
Cairo Wolfe Olivier, born Nov. 21, 2020 to Maxillian Olivier and Ashley Greene
November Autumn Fern Wilson, born Nov. 22, 2020 to Christopher Wilson and Terra Gaytan
Sadie Claire Erica Secor, born Nov. 24, 2020 to Robert Secor III and Owens Secor



❖ BIRTHS
Mad River Community Hospital



WHODUNNIT? A two-door red/maroon truck with no tailgate and a silver PT Cruiser dumped a huge pile of garbage right next to the bay at the Vance Avenue parking lot in Samoa over the weekend. Anyone with identification information is asked to call the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office at (707) 445-7251.
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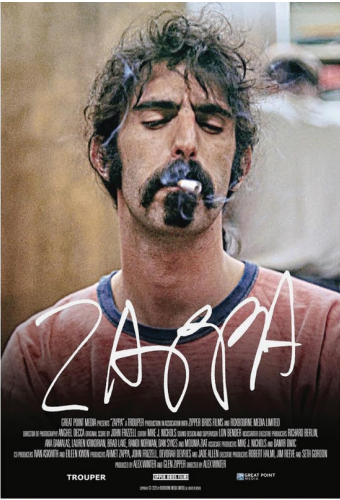
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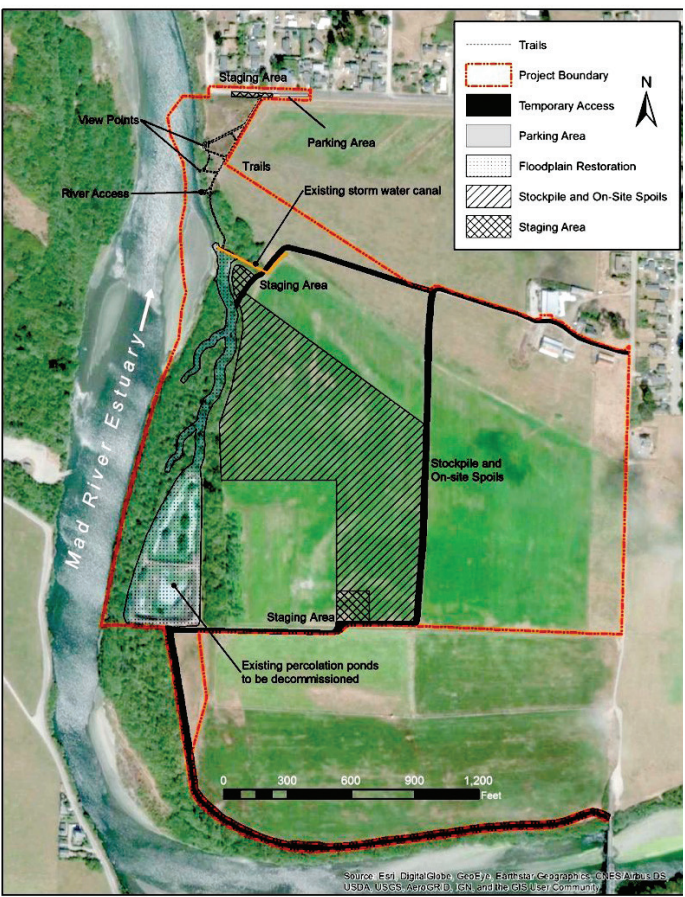
FRANK AT THE MINOR The Minor Theatre presents **ZAPPA**, a documentary about the life and career of Frank Zappa. But a \$12 virtual cinema ticket at minorthreatre.com, and half the price goes directly to the Minor. With unfettered access to the Zappa Vault, and the archival footage contained within, **ZAPPA** explores the private life behind the mammoth musical career that never shied away from the political turbulence of its time. Alex Winter's assembly features appearances by Frank's widow Gail Zappa and several of Frank's musical collaborators including friend of Arcata and Zappa stunt guitarist Mike Keneally, Ian Underwood, Steve Vai, Pamela Des Barres, Bunk Gardner, David Harrington, Scott Thunes, Ruth Underwood, Ray White and others. Following the feature, audiences will be treated to previously unseen footage directly from the Zappa Vault – intimate backstage footage of the band, and a blistering live performance from 1974.

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WETLANDS The layout of the planned wetlands project site. HUMBOLDT COUNTY IMAGE



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Wetlands | Mad access

❖ **FROM PAGE 1**

nile fish access. Reconnection of the river to the project area's floodplain will create off-channel habitat.

The project's trail development establishes access to a Mad River overlook off the existing paved School Road pathway.

There will also be a trail from the overlook to a river access area.

There will be parking access via five additional parallel parking spots along School Road and an ADA-reserved spot.

A vehicle turnaround will also be developed.

The project has been in planning stages since 2012 and is supported by a variety of state and federal grants sponsored by California Trout.

The MCSDD also gained a Habitat Conservation Fund grant for the project's design.

The MCSDD collaborated with several non-government organizations, the Wiyot tribe and state and federal environmental agencies. The district and the county also worked with property owners to "fashion a suite of road modifications to lessen the impact to the neighborhood," according to the written report.

"This ambitious project will enhance valuable fish and wildlife habitat as well as enhance public access and recreation opportunities while preserving open space," the report states.



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Here are some highlights:

- * Enhanced techniques used to clean shopping carts, checkstands, shopping areas, restrooms, and every point of contact, every hour on the hour.
- Particular attention to high touch point areas, to include, door handles, light switches, desk surfaces, telephones, and bathroom fixture handles.
- Our Helpful crew is taking extra steps to wash and sanitize their hands and work areas, and are asked to stay home if they do not feel well.

Your health and well-being are our highest priority and we truly appreciate the trust that you place in us when you choose to shop at McKinleyville Ace.

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With Humboldt empurpled, here’s our Limited Stay At Home order

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CALIFORNIA – Upon assessment of the recent, unprecedented rate of rise in increase in COVID-19 cases across California, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is taking immediate actions to prevent the spread of the virus.

These immediate actions will help reduce community spread, protect individuals at higher risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19, and prevent the state’s health care delivery system from becoming overwhelmed. Reducing movement and mixing of individual Californians is critical to decreasing transmission, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Therefore, as the State Public Health Officer, I am issuing a Limited Stay at Home order, effective in counties under Tier One (Purple) of California’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy, requiring that all gatherings with members of other households and all activities conducted outside the residence, lodging or temporary accommodation with members of other households cease between 10 p.m. PST and 5 a.m. PST, except for those activities associated with the operation, maintenance, or usage of critical infrastructure or required by law. This order does not apply to persons experiencing homelessness.

Nothing in this order prevents

any number of persons from the same household from leaving their residence, lodging, or temporary accommodation, as long as they do not engage in any interaction with (or otherwise gather with) any number of persons from any other household, except as specifically permitted herein.

This Limited Stay at Home Order will reduce opportunities for disease transmission with the goal of decreasing the number of hours individuals are in the community and mixing with individuals outside of their household. Every intervention to decrease mixing of households is critical during this unparalleled increase in case rate rise of about 50 percent during the first week in November. In particular, activities conducted during 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. are often non-essential and more likely related to social activities and gatherings that have a higher likelihood of leading to reduced inhibition and reduced likelihood to adhere to COVID-19 preventive measures (e.g., wearing face coverings and maintaining physical distance).

This order shall take effect on Nov. 21, 2020, at 10 p.m. PST.

For counties that move into Tier One (Purple) after the effective date of this Order, the terms of this Order shall apply at 10 p.m. PST on day two after the county is assigned to Tier One (Purple).

For the purpose of counting days, day one shall be the first full day following the date of the tier assignment.

This order remains in effect until 5 a.m. PST on December 21, 2020, and may be extended or revised as needed.

This order is issued pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 120125, 120130(c), 120135, 120140, 120145, 120175, 120195 and 131080; EO N-60-20, N-25-20, and other authority provided for under the Emergency Services Act; and other applicable law.

Erica S. Pan, MD, MPH
Acting State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health

County Public Health asks for community’s help with contact tracing

HUMBOLDT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

HUMBOLDT – Public Health is modifying the contact investigation process and asking for the community’s assistance in order to better respond to an unprecedented surge in COVID-19 cases.

Contact tracers will continue to reach out to each county resident who tests positive and will conduct an initial interview. The investigator will assign the case as either “priority” or “low-risk.”

Some examples of priority cases include health care workers in hospitals or clinical settings, staff in school or daycares and those who reside or work in congregate living facilities, but priority will be assigned on a case-by-case basis.

Humboldt County Health Officer Dr. Teresa Frankovich said, “We are at a point where we need the community to assist us in quickly reaching their close contacts in order to help contain spread of the virus.”

If a case is designated as priority, case investigators will

be assigned to follow up directly with their close contacts. If a case is designated lower-risk, the contact investigation team will ask that individual to reach out to their own close contacts right away to notify them of the exposure and forward information on quarantine.

- A close contact is defined as:
- Anyone who was within six feet of a COVID-positive person for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour timeframe during the infectious period.
- A person’s infectious period is:
- Two days before the onset of symptoms until it has been at least 10 days since symptoms began; AND
- No fever for at least 24 hours; AND
- Symptoms have improved.
- For positive individuals who do not have symptoms, the infectious period begins two days before the test and continues for 10 days.

Dr. Frankovich said it is no longer practical for case investigators to reach out to all contacts of a known posi-

tive. “We reported 56 new cases since Friday alone, and last week the county saw its largest weekly case increase since the beginning of the pandemic,” she said. “It’s clear that it’s time to adjust our strategy as much of the state has already had to do.”

Read more about what to do while waiting for your test results, and access information on isolation and quarantine at humboldt.gov.org/blanketorders.

For the most recent COVID-19 information, visit cdc.gov or cdph.ca.gov. Local information is available at humboldt.gov.org or during business hours by contacting covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us or calling (707) 441-5000.

Humboldt County COVID-19 Data Dashboard: humboldt.gov.org/dashboards, Follow us on Facebook: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://www.facebook.com/HumCoCOVID19), Instagram: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://www.instagram.com/HumCoCOVID19) Twitter: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://twitter.com/HumCoCOVID19)

Humboldt Health Alert: humboldt.gov.org/HumboldtHealthAlert

How to do business at Arcata City Hall under the circumstances

CITY OF ARCATA

ARCATA – Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases locally, Arcata City Hall will have limited access to the public beginning Monday, Nov. 30.

Face-to-face interaction with city staff will only be available by appointment, and essential city staff will also be available online and by phone between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To continue to serve the public, the following protocol will be in place:

Building & Engineering Department

- Encroachment permits, sewer lateral certificates and Building & Engineering questions can be emailed to engineering@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 825-2128.
- For Streetlights and Water & Sewer inquiries, please email jclifton@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 825-2175.

City Manager’s Office

- General inquiries, email citymgr@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-5953.
- Public records requests can be made by emailing the City Clerk at bdory@cityofarcata.org.

Community Development Department

- To reach the Community Development Department please email comdev@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-5955.
- Inquiries related to allowable uses, zoning, or development standards call (707) 822-5955 or email jmateer@cityofarcata.org.
- To submit a planning permit application, contact kroberts@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-5955.
- Permit applications and questions related to building permits and inspections can be emailed to permits@cityofarcata.org.

org or call (707) 822-5956 or (707) 825-2128.

Cannabis-related inquiries can be emailed to sdiehlmccarthy@cityofarcata.org.

- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance inquiries can be emailed to comdev@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-5955.
- Food Works and Business Assistance inquires can be emailed to jdart@cityofarcata.org.

Environmental Services Department and the Arcata Recreation Division

- Please email eservices@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-8184 to reach the Environmental Services Department.
- The Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center is closed to the public.
- Public playgrounds remain closed.
- Public open spaces, trails, city parks, the Arcata Community Forest, the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary are currently open.
- Community members must wear face coverings and practice social distancing while enjoying public trails.
- The Arcata Skate Park and city playing courts are open for individual or single-household use. Community members must wear face coverings and practice social distancing while enjoying these facilities.
- Email rec@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-7091 to reach the Recreation Division.
- For facility rental information call (707) 822-7091.

Finance Office, Water and Sewer Billing

- The Finance Department will continue

ue to receive water and sewer payments during this time.

- Residents have the option to pay water and sewer bills online at arcata.merchanttransact.com or by phone by calling the city’s automated bill system at (707) 827-1114. Credit cards, Debit cards and ACH/eChecks are accepted.
- For cash or check transactions, drop boxes are located in the City Hall parking lot off of Seventh Street and next to the USPS mailbox outside City Hall on F Street.
- Please call (707) 822-5951 (dial 1, then 2, to reach a live representative) or email finance@cityofarcata.org to make special service requests, in-person appointments or for all other City-related billing inquiries.

Arcata Police Department Services

- Emergency services provided by the Arcata Police Department will continue to operate 24 hours a day.
- Parking tickets can be paid on-line at paymycite.com or by calling (707) 822-2428.
- Preferential Parking applications can be paid for and made on-line at paymycite.com.
- Alarm permit payments may be paid over the phone by calling (707) 822-2428.
- All cash or check payments can be dropped off at the drop box located outside the Police Department Office or mailed to City of Arcata Attn: APD.
- Records Requests can be submitted via email to frontoffice@arcatapd.org or faxed to (707) 822-7936
- Live Scan fingerprinting services

continue to be available by appointment only, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 and 11:45 a.m.

Arcata & Mad River Transit (AMRTS)

- Email AMRTS transit inquiries to lschuetzle@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-3775.
- Bus patrons who require mobility devices are asked to contact City Cab at (707) 442-4555 to make alternative transportation arrangements two hours before their desired departure time.
- Transit riders are encouraged to visit Humboldt Transit Authority’s website at hta.org for more information on bus lines operating outside of Arcata.
- Amtrak tickets can be purchased at amtrak.com or by calling 1-800-872-7245.
- Greyhound tickets can be purchased at greyhound.com or by calling 1-800-231-2222.

General guidelines

- Face coverings, physical distancing and other health and safety protocols are required for all City Hall staff and guests. Community members who have traveled, had visitors from out of the area or possibly been exposed to COVID-19 are urged to stay home.
- The City is dedicated to keeping the community and informed during this unprecedented time, and is taking these steps for the health and safety of the public.
- Please visit humboldt.gov.org for more local COVID-19 updates, and visit cityofarcata.org for more detailed information on how to access City services, meetings and more.

Chezem Road, where nothing ever happens – except when it does

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

BLUE LAKE – On Wednesday, Nov. 18 at about 4:50 p.m., Humboldt County Sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to the 3400 block of Chezem Road near Blue Lake for the report of a firearm brandishing with shots fired.

Deputies made contact with the 23-year-old male victim on scene, who told deputies that he was sitting in a vehicle outside of a residence on Chezem Road when he heard multiple gunshots coming from nearby. Shortly after the shots were fired, a truck reportedly pulled up near the victim’s vehicle and the driver brandished a firearm at the victim. The suspect then fled the scene.

While on scene, deputies received information that the California Highway Patrol had located the suspect’s vehicle traveling west on Highway 299.

Deputies and CHP Officers conducted a felony traffic stop on the vehicle in the area of U.S. Highway 101 and Sunset Avenue.



Berry Chieffon Buzzard

The driver, 55-year-old Berry Chieffon Buzzard was taken into custody without incident.

During a search of the vehicle, deputies located a loaded firearm matching the description given by the victim.

Buzzard was booked into the Humboldt County Correctional Facility on charges of exhibiting a firearm (PC 417(A)(2)), carrying a loaded firearm in a public place (PC 25850(A)), felon in possession of a firearm (PC 29800(A)(1) and carrying a concealed dirk or dagger (PC 21310).

Anyone with information about this case or related criminal activity is encouraged to call the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office at (707) 445-7251 or the Sheriff’s Office Crime Tip line at (707) 268-2539.

MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – Arcata restaurants are coping with COVID-19 as best they can, adopting streetside dining and new takeout options. Some, learning of infections among their staff, have closed to take corrective measures.

Northtown’s popular hamburger restaurant Stars Arcata sent out this notice on Saturday:

“Dear Humboldt, we have just learned that a member of our staff has tested positive for COVID-19. We have been closed for the holiday and will remain so until our entire staff has been tested and we have conducted a deep cleaning of our restaurant. From all of us at Stars Arcata, we thank you for your patience and understanding. We will post an update on our plans to reopen soon. Please stay safe.

Thank you for your attention,
Jennifer and Arron Eaton”

Meanwhile, Plaza Grill, which has soldiered on through the pandemic with a combination of outdoor dining, takeout boxes and limited indoor seating, also shuttered operations recently due to a staffmember’s infection.

But this weekend saw a resumption of takeout options with this announcement:

“We are excited to announce our reopening! Plaza Grill will be open starting this Tuesday, Dec. 1 The full menu will be available Tuesday through Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m.

“We will remain doing to-go orders only, through calling the restaurant, online at plazagrillarcata.com, or Doordash. We are also returning with our \$10 to go boxes for the drive through pick up Tuesdays through Fridays!

“Our entire staff extends a heartfelt thank you to our community! We appreciate your kind words, patience, and understanding, and can’t wait to welcome you back!”

Humboldt State to plan for consideration to be state’s third polytechnic

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
HUMBOLDT STATE – The California State University has asked Humboldt State University to undertake a self-study toward becoming designated a polytechnic.

The request offers the momentous possibility of HSU becoming one of just three polytechnic universities in the state, and the only one in Northern California.

It would better position HSU to meet specific workforce needs on the North Coast and statewide, and it would significantly raise HSU’s profile among prospective students and grant-funding organizations.

HSU President Tom Jackson, Jr. shared his enthusiasm for the request in a message to campus last week, calling it an “incredible, transformative opportunity.”

“This is our moment. First, let’s allow ourselves to imagine, dream, and consider Humboldt as a polytechnic,” Jackson wrote.



“What are the possibilities for this region and future students? What are the possibilities for new grants and research?”

The CSU request came in a recent letter from Chancellor Timothy White.

The Chancellor wrote, in part: “Humboldt State University is a vital institution on the North Coast and for California. The campus currently has many distinct strengths in the sciences, with a special capacity for matters pertaining to forestry, oceanogra-

phy, energy, and agriculture. As we look to the needs of California in the decades ahead, programs dealing with the development and application of new knowledge in the fire sciences, aquaculture, sustainable energy, North Coast crops, and environmental sustainability are among a few areas where HSU could provide world-class programs.”

Although it is Fall Break, HSU is sharing it as soon as possible with the campus and community.

Polytechnic institutions traditionally feature hands-on and career-focused programs, an emphasis in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) and applied science programs like health and agriculture, along with a strong liberal arts foundation.

In the requested self-study, HSU will have a chance to build upon the collective vision from its academic and strategic planning to reimagine the polytechnic for the 21st Century.

It could incorporate Humboldt State’s broad expertise in sustainability, along with areas like traditional ecological knowledge, renewable technologies, equitable and ethical practices, tribal and rural community development, and more.

“I am excited for the possibilities that HSU becoming a polytechnic CSU represents for our region,” said Keith Flamer, president of College of the Redwoods. “This will allow CR and HSU to expand the transfer pathway in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics, forestry and aquaculture fields. CR’s administration and faculty are committed to working with our Humboldt State University partners to build a pathway from our high quality STEM related programs to HSU. It is a ‘win-win’ collaboration.”

Well-positioned

In many ways, HSU is the obvious candidate to become the state’s third polytechnic. HSU has

the highest percentage of courses with a hands-on component in the CSU, and it has the third highest percentage of students in natural resources and STEM programs (behind Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona).

HSU also has the CSU’s highest percentage of STEM graduates who go on to earn doctoral degrees, ranking 8th nationally among 660 master’s level institutions.

The self-study on the polytechnic concept, to be completed by Spring 2021, will be led by HSU Provost Jenn Capps and Lisa Bond-Maupin, currently serving as interim deputy chief of staff and special assistant to the president.

It will build upon numerous important planning efforts currently underway at HSU, including the Strategic Plan process, Academic Road Map planning process, preparation for upcoming WSCUC accreditation visits, and others.

Chancellor Tim White’s letter

TO: Tom Jackson, Jr., President
Humboldt State University
FROM: Timothy P. White Chancellor
SUBJECT: Consideration of Path Forward to Designate Humboldt State University as the Third Polytechnic University in the CSU

I have appreciated our conversations over the past several months regarding the strengths and future directions for Humboldt State University. These discussions have been both informal and more formal in our annual summer conference. I am also aware of initial discussions at HSU, with the Division of Academic and Student Affairs here in the Chancellor’s Office, along with the leadership at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona.

On November 12, 2020, I was pleased that we could engage Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and Chancellor-select Castro in the discussion. They concur with this effort to further develop a prospectus to designate HSU as a polytechnic university.

Therefore, I encourage you to further develop this concept that could lead to the CSU Board of Trustees taking an action to formally pronounce HSU as a polytechnic university.

I now ask that you mobilize stakeholders and pursue a more rigorous self-study and develop a prospectus (along the lines of an academic and business plan) with campus and community stakeholders that hold promise to move this concept forward for

formal consideration.

Humboldt State University is a vital institution on the North Coast and for California. The campus currently has many distinct strengths in the sciences, with a special capacity for matters pertaining to forestry, oceanography, energy, and agriculture.

As we look to the needs of California in the decades ahead, programs dealing with the development and application of new knowledge in the fire sciences, aquaculture, sustainable energy, north coast crops, and environmental sustainability are among a few areas where HSU could provide world-class programs.

I also see the likelihood that the designation and recognition of HSU as a polytechnic university would make your campus increasingly attractive to students from around California and beyond, creating a robust and stable student body at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

With all stated above, please notify me of your interest in further development as summarized above, along with a tentative timeline. This work can result in a most positive outcome for Humboldt State University, the CSU, your local region and the state of California.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard or me; and, in the new year then Chancellor Castro.

c: Dr. Joseph I. Castro, Chancellor-select
Dr. Loren J. Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor



Timothy White

President Tom Jackson notifies the HSU campus community

Friends and Colleagues,

I am writing to share with you an incredible, transformative opportunity that the California State University has presented to Humboldt State University.

In a letter we received at the end of last week from Chancellor Timothy White, HSU is asked to undertake a self-study toward becoming designated the third polytechnic university in the CSU.

As Chancellor White indicates, this designation would build upon HSU’s strengths, help us meet important needs for the North Coast and California, and make our campus increasingly attractive to students from California and beyond. Building on the collective vision emerging from our academic and strategic planning, we can reimagine the polytechnic university for the 21st century – marked by a focus on sustainability, hands-on and career-focused programs, and a broad liberal arts education. Beyond traditional polytech programs, we can infuse traditional ecological knowledge, renewable technologies, equitable and ethical practices and more. There are many possibilities, and I believe this is a time to raise our sights.

This request from CSU follows limited conversations with faculty and other individuals on campus, with leaders at other polytechnic campuses, and with leadership at the CSU. We are now being asked to more fully develop this concept and create an academic and business plan.

This is our moment. First, let’s allow ourselves to imagine, dream, and consider Humboldt as a polytechnic. What are the possibilities for this region and future students? What are the possibilities for new grants and research?

We are aware that this announcement is coming during Fall Break and wanted to make sure that our campus community was informed of this communication from the Chancellor’s Office as soon as possible. Provost Capps will be following up when students and faculty return from Fall Break next week with more detailed information on next steps and opportunities to get involved.

This request from CSU comes at an opportune time, as we are currently engaged in numerous campus-wide planning processes, each of which includes broad stakeholder participation. I have asked Dr. Jenn Capps, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Lisa Bond-Maupin, currently serving as interim deputy chief of staff and special assistant to the president, to lead the requested self-study, with goal of completing it by the end of the Spring 2021 semester. P

lease give us some time to set up an informational webpage on this matter. Please look for more information in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,
Tom Jackson, Jr.
President



Tom Jackson

Local leaders find a lot to like in possible polytechnic designation

Congressman Jared Huffman (California District 2)

Humboldt State University was recently asked to undertake a self-study on becoming the state’s third polytechnic, and a number of North Coast elected officials and other leaders have shared their perspectives about it. Their comments are below.



Jared Huffman

bring new opportunities to HSU and the students it serves, while continuing to offer its current curriculum. Becoming the third polytechnic university in the CSU system could be an exciting way forward for HSU, its students, and the North Coast community.”

Mike McGuire State Senator (District 2)

“The North Coast is so fortunate to have Humboldt State as part of our community and the polytechnic designation would be an extraordinary op-



Mike McGuire

portunity for Northern California. HSU already has the third highest percentage of students in the entire CSU system enrolled in STEM programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), behind the other two polytechnic schools — Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona. We are thrilled at this prospect and look forward to the launch of the feasibility study this coming spring.”

Jim Wood Assemblymember (District 2)

“Congratulations to HSU for receiving the Chancellor’s approval to begin the process of becoming a polytechnic university. In addition to HSU already offering high-quality educational programs that meet California’s needs and the unique needs of the North Coast area, becoming a polytechnic university will better position HSU to meet the high demand for polytechnic programs like fire science, aquaculture, energy and health, putting them in great company with only two other CSU polytechnic universities, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona.”



Jim Wood

Mike Wilson Humboldt County Supervisor

“This seems like a natural fit for HSU. To me, it’s a recognition of the important role this institution continues to play in



Mike Wilson

our understanding of natural systems, our impacts on the planet and the quest for solutions to make all communities more resilient.”

Susan Seaman Mayor, Eureka

“Since its inception, HSU has continued to grow and change to become an institution that better meets the needs of its students and the community. From the Humboldt Normal School for the education of teachers to the Humboldt State Teachers College to Humboldt State College and eventually Humboldt State University as we know it today, it has evolved. This next step, to explore becoming a polytechnic, is an exciting opportunity to bring a distinction to the applied sciences that has already played such an important part at HSU. There is a prestige that comes with being a polytechnic that can revitalize the University and even invigorate the non-science programs.”



Susan Seaman

Brett Watson Arcata City Councilmember

“It is exciting to consider expanding Humboldt State’s footprint of environmen-

tal and social sustainability in the world. Locally we have known for years the quality of scientific education that has spurred great innovation coming from Humboldt State. Being recognized for that leadership and garnering the resources to grow our offerings would ensure stability of the university in our rural region.”



Brett Watson

Scott Adair Director of Economic Development, County of Humboldt

“The County’s office of Economic Development is extremely excited at the prospect of Humboldt State University becoming the third polytechnic university in the CSU system. As our community seeks solutions for our post COVID economic recovery it is vital that we identify opportunities to attract and retain a skilled and knowledgeable workforce. Achieving polytechnic status would aid in the efforts of economic development agencies county wide to create jobs and attract outside direct investment into the region. We stand by HSU’s efforts and applaud them for taking steps which look to the future.”



Scott Adair

SCENE

❖ THE VICTORIAN SEAPORT

Eureka beautification effort launched

PROJECT EUREKA

EUREKA – Imagine driving along U.S. Highway 101 through Downtown Eureka and seeing beautiful planter baskets and colorful banners hanging from the lamp posts. You notice well-kept landscaping and green spaces along both sides of the street and bright, well-designed wayfinding signage.

All of the storefronts are occupied by vibrant businesses, and the sidewalks are full of residents and visitors, taking in the sights.

This beautiful corridor makes you slow down and want to explore the city more. This is the goal of Project Eureka – a community-driven, volunteer-powered beautification effort, working to improve the look and feel of the City of Eureka, one block at a time.

Project Eureka will first focus on one of the most-traveled sections of our city: the 101 corridor through Downtown Eureka (Fourth and Fifth streets between D and H streets). For many people, this is the only part of our city that they see, and we want to make our best first impression. Fun fact: over 30,000 vehicles pass through this section of our town each day.

We will beautify this corridor by implementing the following projects: hanging lights in the street trees, landscaping green spaces, hanging banners and planter baskets on light poles, replacing worn out trash cans, updating wayfinding kiosks with paint and new signage, refinishing



the benches and adding more, cleaning the painted utility boxes, applying window decals with beautiful images to vacant properties, adding new concrete planters and more.

Why focus on something as superficial as beautification with all of the issues facing our area right now? In fact, beautification has a wide array of benefits that improve cities and the lives of the people who live there.

City beautification projects have been proven to build neighborhood pride and ownership, and serve as a base for revitalization. Beautification also improves the well-being of residents, encourages more tourism, increases property values, and attracts new businesses.

We have grand plans for this city, and we need your help! We are now accepting individual and business donations, as well as volunteer sign-ups on at projecteurekaca.com. Please follow on Instagram for updates [@project.eureka](https://www.instagram.com/project.eureka).

This project is coordinated by Jenna Catsos (of Pen+Pine and the Eureka Street Art Festival), and Alanna Powell (of the Eureka Visitor Center, Eureka Friday Night Market, and Humboldt Made). Both coordinators are coordinating as private citizens, not under any organization or the City of Eureka. The mission of Project Eureka is to improve the look and feel of the City of Eureka through community-driven beautification and clean-up projects that enhance the visual experience for visitors and residents alike.

Bustling 1880s Jacoby Creek Valley

Those of us who live in Bayside are well aware that we are fortunate to live in such a lovely place. But sometimes a look into the past is helpful in illuminating the present. The valley we know today is thoroughly transformed from the land that was home to the Wiyot long before we arrived.

In November of 1887, the *Arcata Union* newspaper ran a 4-part series on the local resources of the Jacoby Creek valley. The anonymous writer started by describing how the valley bottom was when white settlers first arrived: forested with spruce “of giant dimensions,” alder, ash, willow, maple and pepperwood, all covered by a “jungle” of “shimmering emerald foliage,” and regularly visited by deer, elk and bear. Salmon by the thousands crowd-



❖ BAYSIDE CORNERS
Carolyn Jones

ed up the stream we now call Jacoby Creek.

Over the course of three decades the entire valley bottom was cleared and planted with well-tilled fields of grain and vegetables. Houses were built, along with a school, post office, and general store, and a railroad was constructed up the valley (a significant engineering feat as the bay’s tidal wetlands extended much further than now) to provide access to the real riches: huge redwood trees covering “the ground at 50 to 60 M feet per acre.”

But there were other resources deemed important as well: rock outcrops of marble, limestone, sandstone, granite and quartz, and, a surprise to me, huge redwood stumps that, provided “a method be advised for cutting the stumps into

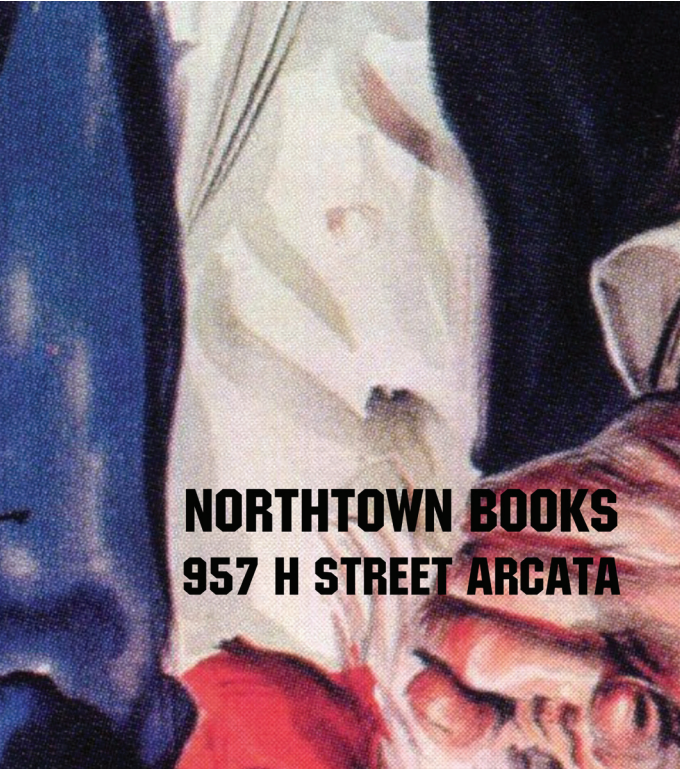
sections” could provide material for veneers, panels and posts, Tanoak bark, used in leather processing, was another resource that had the potential to employ hundreds, though it is unclear to me whether this industry ever materialized.

Today, various enterprises still extract timber and stone from the valley, but at a pretty small scale. It is hard to imagine the noise and activity of the 1880s, when hundreds of men were employed in such labors, and where every year saw the construction of new stores, buildings and houses.

Bayside Holiday Market

Check out the Bayside Holiday Market Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 7 p.m., and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. at Bayside Community Hall. Thursday Dec. 3 is charity shopping day for Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods, which will receive 10 percent of gross proceeds.

Drop off warm winter clothing (size large and up) and non-perishable foods for relief projects in the Hall’s lobby during Holiday Market hours.



SHINE ON Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse at the harbor. Digitally enhanced photo by Zack Stanton

Lighthouse Project auction set

It’s time for a Memorial Lighthouse update. The iconic structure rests near the harbor on land owned by Cher-ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria. Since it was moved on Jan. 10, 2018 from its site at Edwards and Trinity Street due to coastal erosion, the Trinidad Rancheria has been extraordinarily generous to provide a beautiful place for the lighthouse to remain. The Trinidad Rancheria, along with Big Lagoon Rancheria and the Yurok Tribe helped with the relocation.

It took over a year to obtain retroactive permits from the Coastal Commission and the City to restore the 45- x 50-foot parcel, now called Trinidad Bay Memorial Park, where the lighthouse used to be. The Memorial Wall commemorating those who have been lost at sea or buried at sea remains in place. The site restoration work was completed over a year ago.

Since then the Trinidad Civic Club has been actively engaged with engineers and the Trinidad Rancheria to plan and design the permanent location for the lighthouse, which will once more house the Fourth Order 1871 Fresnel lens and the 1898 bronze fog bell, removed from the Trinidad Head Lighthouse when they were decommissioned in 1949, and given to the Trinidad Civic Club to be preserved at the Memorial Lighthouse, a replica of the 1871 lighthouse.

When the Memorial Lighthouse design is completed in the next few weeks, a grading permit and a Coastal Development Permit will be needed.

Even with the greatly appreciated assistance of the Trinidad Civic Club partners, the moving and permit process cost \$80,000. The permitting, design and construction of the new Memorial Lighthouse project at the harbor is expected to cost approximately \$250,000 to \$300,000.

An anonymous local donor has given the Trinidad Civic Club a substantial start



on the project fund but the tiny service club has much to do.

Trinidad Civic Club Co-Presidents Jan West and Dana Hope give their all in community service. In 2020, even with the limitations of COVID-19 event planning, the Club has participated in CASA and Alzheimer’s projects, has presented scholarships and has given to local health care workers in the early days of the pandemic, among other activities.

Now, attention is turning full steam to the Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse project. Jan, Dana and Barbara Cline have organized a “Season of Gifting” for this purpose. Jan writes:

“The Trinidad Civic Club presents a ‘Season of Gifting’ Online Auction which opened at noon on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26 and continues until Sunday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Memorial Lighthouse Project. Explore great offerings in categories such as Art, Wine & Décor, Collectibles, Jewelry, Memorabilia and so much more. The Club is grateful to auction donors for their unique, special contributions.

“Your bidding experience will be easy and enjoyable. To start go to trinidadcivicclub.org, then click the auction link on the homepage and register to bid. Winners will pick up items in Trinidad after receiving directions via email. Share our link with friends and family.

“We hope you find something perfect during this ‘Season of Gifting’ for yourself or someone special. Please bid generously to help our Memorial Lighthouse glow again.”

For more information, email tcc@trinidadcivicclub.org or call Jan at (707) 677-3655. To donate to the project, send a check to Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse, Trinidad Civic Club, P. O. Box 295, Trinidad, CA 95570.

Email Patti at baycity@sonic.net.

Tim McKay’s legacy: helping the environment

REDWOOD REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY

ARCATA – Every year, for the past six years, the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC) and Redwood Region Audubon Society (RRAS) have held a fundraiser in honor of Tim McKay.

McKay was a great friend to the environment and executive director of the NEC for 30 years.

While at the helm of that organization, McKay began holding annual Birdathons and splitting the funds



MCKAY’S LEGACY Gail Kenny, president of the Redwood Region Audubon Society, presents Larry Glass, president of the Northcoast Environmental Center, an unwalletable check for over \$5,000 on Nov. 10. These are half of the proceeds from this year’s Birdathon Fundraiser.

PHOTO BY GARY FRIEDRICHSEN

raised with RRAS.

McKay had the charisma to cajole many folks from the local birding community to participate, which involves forming teams of birders whose goal is to see, hear, and identify as many bird species as possible within a 24-hour period.

The money is donated by team sponsors who pledge to contribute a set amount for every species observed. After McKay’s untimely death at the age of 59, the Birdathon lapsed for a

while, but some of his old friends rejuvenated it as a way of remembering him.

The Birdathon funds are vital to these two largely volunteer organizations. The money is used to educate our community about the many challenges facing our local ecosystems, and to lobby for the wild animals and plants that have no voice.

To learn more about these organizations, please visit yournec.org and rras.org.

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Pennies to Twenties paves the way

Last week before the weather was officially horrible, our little green jars were collected, and they were filled with Pennies to Twenties again. Thank you everyone, please know your donations are appreciated. Keep it up! We see computers and classes in our future!

We received another delightful gift this week. Tom Dimmick, his wife Amber, and his father Bill collected quite a pile of pennies.

After Bill passed, Tom and Amber remembered the penny campaign started by Eleanor Sullivan to fund the MSC. They donated the entire collection of pennies to the Senior Center.

Riding around with jars and bags of pennies in my trunk, I teared up a little at the thoughtful gesture by the Dimmick family. Heartfelt thanks to them and all of you who give so generously to help support our seniors.

If you happen have a jar or two or three of coins around the house, we will accept them gratefully. I have a big trunk and will pick them up!

Thanksgiving was a little strange this year but so is this dreadful pandemic that seems to be filling and directing our lives.

It's always been my favorite holiday. No presents, fireworks, no religious celebrations, just cooking and eating with friends and family if we're lucky.

I hope you all had a great holiday. But social distancing was tough with turkey and pumpkin pie and a table filled with all ages.

For me it marks the beginning of winter. I know its autumn, but food, friends and family are the only thing that help me forget that I'm going to be cold, wet, and locked in the house for a few more months. The two cats who live here with me are shedding enough hair to make two more cats.

My allergies are intense. I've been in an antihistamine/decongestant coma for about three days. I can't smell anything, but the pennies make a cheery jingle rattling around until I get to the MSC to drop them off.

Thanks to *Mad River Union* and *Senior News* for working hard to keep us up to date with local news. Please subscribe, donate, and keep those presses rolling. Call me if you'd like to add to the jingle in my trunk. (707) 845-2817.



MCKINLEYVILLE
SENIOR
CENTER
Patti Stammer

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 20-00576

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
MELECIO TRUCKING
1245 BELNOR RD.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
RAMIRO
MELECIO-RAMIREZ
1245 BELNOR RD.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
CONDUCTED BY:
AN INDIVIDUAL
S/RAMIRO MELECIO-RAMIREZ
RAMIRO MELECIO-RAMIREZ
This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on NOV. 19, 2020
KELLY E. SANDERS
TN, DEPUTY CLERK
12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 20-00582

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
CRYSTAL SPRINGS BOTTLED WATER CO.
2035 EICH ROAD
EUREKA, CA 95503
P.O. BOX 3786
EUREKA, CA 95502
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
NORTHCOAST PARTNERS, INC.
CA C1264312
3950 J STREET
P.O. 6789
EUREKA, CA 95502
CONDUCTED BY:
A CORPORATION
S/ARLENE MILLER
SECRETARY/CFO
This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on NOV. 24, 2020
KELLY E. SANDERS
SC, DEPUTY CLERK
12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 20-00520

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
STERLING LENS PHOTOGRAPHY
1174 ALLIE CT.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
TARA ZETTL-GROULX
1174 ALLIE CT.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
CONDUCTED BY:
AN INDIVIDUAL
S/TARA ZETTL-GROULX
INDIVIDUAL-OWNER
This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on OCT. 15, 2020
KELLY E. SANDERS
SC, DEPUTY CLERK
11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 20-00562

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
MCKINLEYVILLE BMX BLUE LAKE BIKE PUMP TRACK
2437 EAST COCHRAN RD.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
HUMBOLDT SKATEPARK COLLECTIVE
CA C2359463
2437 EAST COCHRAN RD.
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
CONDUCTED BY:
A CORPORATION
S/CHARLES E. CALDWELL II
DIRECTOR
This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on NOV. 16, 2020
KELLY E. SANDERS
SC, DEPUTY CLERK
11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 20-00534

The following person(s) is (are)

doing business as:
HUMBOLDT GRAIN GIRLS
760 MONTANA AVENUE
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
P.O. BOX 4973
ARCATA, CA 95518
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
HUMBOLDT GRAIN GIRLS, LLC
760 MONTANA AVENUE
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
CONDUCTED BY:
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
S/LISA DEMATTEO
PARTNER
This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on OCTOBER 28, 2020
KELLY E. SANDERS
TN, DEPUTY CLERK
11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER: DR190646
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: MICHAEL KAPALA aka MICHAEL L. KAPALA, an individual; THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, acting by and through the CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, a government entity; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): YAMAHA MOTOR FINANCE CORPORATION, U.S.A., a Delaware Corporation
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO: Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.suorteca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos

grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.suorteca.gov) o pidiéndoselo en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is ((El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Humboldt Superior Court 421 J Street, Eureka, CA 95501 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: ((El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): KAREL ROCHA 212413 Prenovost, Normandin, Berh & Dawe 2122 N. Broadway, Suite 200 Santa Ana, CA 92706 (714) 547-2444 Kim L. Bartleson, Clerk, by Morgan P., Deputy Date:Aug. 5, 2019 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9

SUMMONS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE
In the matter of WILLIAM ROBERT HALEY, Petitioner, and
SHASTA DAWN HALEY and DAVID CORY LYMAN, Respondents
CASE NUMBER: 20DR17690
TO: DAVID CORY LYMAN
IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the petition filed against you in the above-entitled cause within 30 days from the date of service of this summons on you; and if you fail to appear, Petitioner will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the petition.

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY!

You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days, along with a required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on Petitioner's attorney or, if Petitioner does not have an attorney, proof of service on Petitioner. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD SEE AN ATTORNEY IMMEDIATELY. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregon-statebar.org or by calling (503) 620-0220 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or toll-free elsewhere in Oregon at (800) 452-8260. MINDY WEKSELBLATT, OSB #901327 Attorney for Petitioner 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER: DR190154
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: NICOLAS R. BERNAL, and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): COAST CENTRAL CREDIT UNION
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may

be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO: Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.suorteca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.suorteca.gov) o pidiéndoselo en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is ((El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Humboldt Superior Court 421 J Street, Eureka, CA 95501 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: ((El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): DUSTIN E. OWENS 244173 OWENS & ROSS 310 THIRD ST. SUITE D EUREKA, CA 95501 (707) 441-1185 Kim L. Bartleson, Clerk, by Morgan P., Deputy Date: FEB. 11, 2019 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9

NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MICHAEL WAYNE IRVINE aka MICHAEL W. IRVINE aka MICHAEL IRVINE
CASE NO.: PR2000172
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:
MICHAEL WAYNE IRVINE aka MICHAEL W. IRVINE aka MICHAEL IRVINE
AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: SHAWN IRVINE in the Superior Court of California, County of HUMBOLDT.

The Amended Petition for Probate requests that:

27 crafters at Bayside Holiday Market

BAYSIDE HOLIDAY MARKET
BAYSIDE – After a successful Black Friday opening, the Bayside Holiday Market is now open five days a week featuring 27 of the community's favorite local artisans and crafters.

The market is located in the Bayside Community Hall at 2297 Jacoby Creek Rd. in Bayside. Hours are noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 19.

The Bayside Holiday Market was created this year in response to so many of the usual local craft fairs being forced to scale back or cancel. It was organized by Amy Whitlatch of Amy's Almost Perfect, and each of the vendors contributed to the cost of operations and marketing.

The market has been approved by the county, and all health and safety rules are being followed. Unlike at a typical craft fair, individual vendors will not be present. Instead, they have set up and stocked their displays in advance, and shoppers can gather items and pay at a single check-out point.

The market is accepting both credit cards and cash.

The Holiday Market includes goods from the following artisans and crafters:

Amy's Almost Perfect
Frog 1 Frog 2
Christina Anastasia
K Loop Design

Pen & Pine
Rebekah Evans Acrylic Pour Art
The Garlic People
Diane Sweet Heat
Humboldt Hot Sauce
Seaside Herbs and Oils
Jameson Creek Ranch
Joanna's Jam
Ingrid's Garden Therapy
Nicole's Creations
Plastic Uniquely Recycled
Go Send Love
Elaine Shore Porcelain
David Kelley Woodworking
Thimbleberry Threads
Oceanside Jam
Peggy Loudon Porcelain
Hum Yum Caramel
Joanna's Jam
McClure Designs
Nature's Scent Bath & Body
Sew Lemony
Sarah's Handmade

Those who want to support local charities are encouraged to shop on Thursdays, when 10% of gross proceeds will be donated. The charities and the days they benefit are: Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods on Dec. 3, Soroptimist International of Eureka on Dec. 10, and Sequoia Humane Society on Dec. 17.

More information is available at (707) 593-6544 or amysalmostperfect@gmail.com.

(707) 822-1771
11/25, 12/2, 12/9

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RAYMOND JAMES RITTER

CASE NO.: PR2000288
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:

RAYMOND JAMES RITTER

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: CHARLES RITTER in the Superior Court of California, County of HUMBOLDT.

The Petition for Probate requests that: CHARLES RITTER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take any actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: DEC. 17, 2020
Time: 2:00 PM
Dept.: 6

Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt, 825 Fifth Street, Eureka, CA, 95501.

THIS HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED ONLINE AND MAY BE ATTENDED THROUGH ZOOM. COURT PROCEEDINGS MAY BE ACCESSED ON THE COURT'S WEBSITE AT <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov>.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the petitioner: JASON J. EADS, ESQ. STOKES, HAMER, KIRK & EADS LLP 381 BAYSIDE ROAD. SUITE A ARCATA, CA 95521

of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the petitioner: CHRIS JOHNSON HAMER (SBN 105752) STOKES, HAMER, KIRK & EADS LLP 381 BAYSIDE ROAD. SUITE A ARCATA, CA 95521 (707) 822-1771 12/2, 12/9, 12/16

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOHN H. HOWER

CASE NO.: PR2000290
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:

JOHN H. HOWER

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: KENNETH HOWER in the Superior Court of California, County of HUMBOLDT.

The Petition for Probate requests that: KENNETH HOWER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedents will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take any actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: JAN. 7, 2021
Time: 2:00 PM
Dept.: 6

Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt, 825 Fifth Street, Eureka, CA, 95501.

THIS HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED ONLINE AND MAY BE ATTENDED THROUGH ZOOM. COURT PROCEEDINGS MAY BE ACCESSED ON THE COURT'S WEBSITE AT <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov>.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the petitioner: JASON J. EADS, ESQ. STOKES, HAMER, KIRK & EADS LLP 381 BAYSIDE ROAD. SUITE A ARCATA, CA 95521

to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the petitioner: LAURENCE A. KLUCK MATHEWS, KLUCK, WALSH, WYKLE & LATT, LLP 100 M STREET EUREKA, CA 95501 (707) 442-3758 12/2, 12/9, 12/16

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME STEPHEN JAY HALL SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT CASE NO. CV2001289 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present name: **STEPHEN JAY HALL** to Proposed name: **STEFAN JOSHUA HALL**;

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court, located at 825 5th Street, Eureka, California, at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the application should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Date: JAN. 8, 2021
Time: 1:45 p.m.
Dept.: 4

For information on how to appear remotely for your hearing, please visit <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov/>.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Mad River Union. Date: NOV. 24, 2020
KELLY L. NEEL
Judge of the Superior Court
12/2, 12/9, 12/23, 12/30

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COVID | Healthcare system gearing up for surge

❖ FROM PAGE 1

restrictions might prevent that from happening but “certainly our trajectory right now is a steep climb in cases.”

She implored residents not to gather or travel during the Thanksgiving holiday and emphasized the importance of facial coverings.

“I think by now people have gotten a message about the fact that masks are not controversial,” Frankovich said. “There really is no scientific controversy about this – it is not the entire solution to a problem but it has certainly been well proven to help and so it’s incredibly important people wear them.”

It’s also important to avoid grouping. Frankovich said large gatherings – including one that had 100 people – combined with “multiple” smaller ones have been high risk events sucking up “a tremendous amount” of contact tracing time.

“The bottom line is we have to slow the number of cases that are emerging so that we have the time to do the robust investigations we really need to do,” said Frankovich. “So again, it goes to all those prevention measures that help us have a head start.”

She added that gatherings are riskier now than they were when COVID-19’s presence in the community was less robust.

The impact of Thanksgiving will be seen in one to two weeks and the local health care system has geared up for a continued surge.

Hospitals have increased their capacities, including through use of “alternate care sites” outside of their facilities and Frankovich said there have been “on-going discussions with our healthcare partners about staffing for this.”

Because the case acceleration is outpacing the ability to track spread, the

county has asked for “community assistance” with contact tracing investigations.

Under a new process, contact tracing investigators will prioritize cases involving health care workers, school staff and those who live or work in nursing home and care facilities.

With other, lower-priority cases, “The contact investigation team will ask that individual to reach out to their own close contacts right away to notify them of the exposure and forward information on quarantine,” according to a Nov. 23 county press release.

It quotes Frankovich as saying, “We are at a point where we need the community to assist us in quickly reaching their close contacts in order to help contain spread of the virus.”

She added that the previous week saw the county’s “largest weekly case increase since the beginning of the pandemic” and “It’s clear that it’s time to adjust our strategy as much of the state has already had to do.”

As the county prepares to face the fallout from Thanksgiving travel and gatherings, it has expanded its free testing at the Redwood Acres site in Eureka to include Saturdays and Sundays (see page 1).

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